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ABSTRACT

Historical conditions determined that the Romanian language developed independently of the other Romance languages; the language thus remains behind in its development. In the eighteenth century the activity of the Transylvanian School of philologists established the Romanian language's own linguistic bases for the assimilation of borrowings from Latin and Romance languages. The assimilation of these borrowings raised Romanian to a modern level in the language of the humanities and literature. In the language of science and technology, terms of German and French origin abound, mostly in metallurgy and mechanics. Lately, the development of electronics and cybernetics in the United States has brought about a massive adoption of American English terms, e.g., implementation/implementare; feeder/fider/; operator/operator; test/test; exit/exit, etc. Some terms have suffered spelling changes, some others only phonemic changes. (Lists with terms in either category are attached to the paper.) The use of American English as an international vehicle of scientific and technological communication has also influenced the lexicon and grammar of written scientific Romanian; American English has determined stylistic and syntactic modifications in Romanian, thus allowing the language to become more concise and objective, moving away from the Latin literary pattern. (Author/AM)

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"American Terms in the Romanian of Science and Technology"

by

Vera Berceanu

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The study of language change as a consequence of development and expansion of modern society offers interesting phenomena.

Up to the Enlightenment advanced languages of western Europe generally expressed either people's feelings and reactions to the environment, or the logical relationship between man and his environment. Languages express realities. The Enlightenment opened widely the road to scientific and technical research, to language ability to express abstract notions, to increase communication and interpenetration of languages and isoglosses. Modern language words were deprived of their concrete meaning, and started to be utilized to represent abstract values, and be universally accepted. The amount of French terms in all languages increased considerably, and French became the international vehicle of culture.

The introduction of technical, abstract terms inaugurated a period of intense borrowings. A study of these borrowings would indicate the stage of development and inter-influence of languages. One example of such a linguistic phenomenon is the "franglais" which actually is the Americanization of French.

The development of the Romanian language including the Romanian of Science and Technology (henceforth RST) underwent similar historical transformations along three periods:

1. During the first period, in early 1800's the Transylvanian School philologists performed an outstanding experiment of linguistic fixation

during which they established the Latin origin of the Romanian language and its continuity on the territory of Romania. They succeeded in devising the Roman graphs for the Romanian phonems to replace the Cyrillic alphabet then in use. They manage to disseminate the cultivated language of the Enlightenment through translations and adaptations; to introduce the modern economic and scientific terms through translations, manuals and textbooks; to publish the first literary books in Romanian with Roman characters.

2. As a consequence of the Transylvanian School scholars' activity, and frequent contacts with France and Italy, the nineteenth century Romanian language borrowed intensively from these two Romance languages, but mostly from French. All modern equivalents of scientific and technical terms were unknown by Romanian at that stage of its development. It was these borrowings that enabled Romanian to become a language apt to express modern science and technology development, and they mark the second historical linguistic period.

Transylvanian workshops - where German, Hungarian, and Romanian languages met and interwove - were the birth place of German and Hungarian economic and technical terms to be borrowed by Romanian. Unfortunately, modern Romanian dictionaries do not reflect this fact correctly. Relying on such data professor Macrea disregarded in his article Terminologia stlintifica si tehnica in limba romana contemporana (1970) this historical truth in his statistical analysis of technical terms in Romanian. For instance some of the oldest and most frequently used terms in mechanics are of German origin, but 'cherner' is not even mentioned by the Dictionarul

Tehnic Poliglot (1967) where the notions is represented by 'punctator' an artificially introduced term which actually did not circulate. Disregarded are also 'pribol', 'cratul', 'abtigul', etc. Terms like 'kolergang', 'nituire', 'saiba', 'pila', etc. are among the oldest borrowings from German which amount to approximately 5% of Romanian terms.

(See appendix 1)

Economics and philosophy, usage of modern means of transportation -cars and planes - came to Romanian from France. Terms in these fields are actually French terms transposed into Romanian orthography and pronunciation, like; amerissage- merizaj; chassi-sasiu; debrayage-debreiaj, etc.

(See appendix 2)

3. The third period of development of RST started in the aftermath of World War 11, and has three distinctive phases;

a) According to statistical data in an article by Professor Macrea (1970) over 73% of Romanian terms have been borrowed from French. But this tranditional linguistic source has acquired a strong competitor which is penetrating via mass media and growing international trade relations. Romanian has more recently proved to be inclined to absorb and instate in current usage terms in orthography and pronunciation similar to American rather than French, like: F affectation-Am allocation -Rom alocare; F concurrence -Am competition -Rom competitie; F missile -Am rocket -Rom rachete, etc.

Another example of growing preference for American terms was manifest

during the first and second generation of computers. Romanian used the American 'computer' alongside with the French 'ordinatuer', and a variety of Romanian terms like: 'echipament de calcul', 'masina de calculat', 'calculator', 'calculator electronic'. Gradually the French 'ordinateur' was completely replaced by the translation of American 'electronic computer' Romanian 'calculator electronic', or simply 'calculator'.

(See appendix 3)

A complete absorbtion of an American term is shown by the adoption of 'jack'. 'Jack' was transiated initially into RST with 'vinci', 'pirghie', 'capra', etc. In electricity these were replaced by the French 'fisa' but in the newer field of telecommunication the absolute American Romanian homonym was preferred. In navigation the term acquired an orthographical change into 'geac'. The American 'winch' suffered a similar transformation becoming the Romanian 'vinci'.

b) Full adoption of American terms characterized what I am calling the second phase of Americanization of RST. 'Service' and 'marketing' are striking examples. It is well known that 'service' is intentionally used to express not only maintenance operations but also parts replacement and field engineering. The English Romanian Technical Dictionary published by Editura Tehnica in 1967 gives the following Romanian terms for 'service': 'deservire', 'intretinere', 'reparare', 'depanare'. In the general technic field the Technical Dictionary dives: 'serviciu', 'deservire', 'reparatil curente', 'exploatare', 'regim'. None of the above mentioned terms covers the actual meaning of the American 'service'. The development of economic international trade relations, increase of trade, have determined competent

circles to decide on the usage of absolute American Romanian homonyms, and here is where the third phase is beginning.

c) The magazine Viata Economica, no. 14, 1972 provides examples. One of its heading reads: 'Service - dimensiune a calitatil produsului'. The 'marketing' entry in the Technical Dictionary appears only as 'marketing expenses' -Rom 'cheltuiell de vinzare', 'centru/statie de desfacere'. The reader is thus supposed to understand that 'marketing' stands for the Romanian 'desfacere' which is not completely correct. As a recognition of the importance of marketing in the today's commercial relations the Romanian Marketing Association was organized in Bucharest, in 1971. The columns of the Viata Economica host articles elaborated by this Association. Realities of contempory life introduced 'marketing' as an absolute American Romanian homonym, or an Amerom as I will call such homonyms henceforth. The American 'facilities' was incorrectly entered the Technical Dictionary in the singular, and was translated with the Romanian 'amenajare', 'instalatie', 'dispozitie', 'utilizare'. In 1969 'facilitati' is in current used in the journal Studil si cercetari de calcul economic si cibernetica economica, no. 2. In the same issue one can find another example in the title of an article: Metodele pentru rezolvarea problemelor decizionale complexe where 'decizionale' comes from the very frequent American 'decision making' term.

Along the same line of evolutionary linguistic revolution is the American 'educational' which has become the Romanian 'educational' replacing 'educativ' in use for over a century under the influence of the French 'educatif'. This Amerom is used in the Viata Economica no. 7, 1972: Un

sens mai larg al rolului factorului educational.

'Motivarea' has turned into 'motivatia' in psychology under the influence of American 'motivation' and is used as in this title: Motivatia alegerii in activitatea mintala.' In economics the American 'competitivity' has become the Romanian 'competitivitate' like in this title: Capacitatea de inovatie si competitivitatea pe plata externa, both examples from Viata Economica, no. 8, February 1972. But perhaps the most incredible Ameron is the Romanian 'credibilitate' from the American 'credibility.'

All these examples stress the fact that RST in its third phase is open to borrowings from American, and their penetration cannot and should not be arbitrarily prevented. The numerous economic terms continuously coined in the United States express characteristic American trade relations that have no equivalents in other countries or in other languages. Thus it is commendable that Romanian scientists have succeeded in imposing American terms: without them, contemporary international relations are not conceivable. Aware of this socio-linguistic reality Romanian specialists have opened the marketing and glossar columns in the Viata Economica magazine. In one of the March issues one can read:

". . . ca metoda de marketing, leasingul se integreaza in politica de creare a unej clientele permanente, deoarece contractul de leasing duce la relatii de afaceri de lunga durata."

The Amerom terms is used:

1. As a subject with the definite article in characteristic Romanian postposition: "leasing-ul se integreaza in politica de creare a. . ."
2. As an object: "Cum trebuie utilizat leasing-ul?"
3. As an attribute: "formele leasingului", "avantajele leasing-ului."

4. As an adverbial modifier: "Societati de leasing", "contract de leasing".

5. In "operatiuni de leasing" the Romanian morphem indicating plurality is acquired by the first constituent, the Romanian one only, "operatiune, pl. operatiuni" while the Amerom preserves the singular form.

A complex sentence reads:

"Deoarece in cazul operating leasing-ului [where the Possessive Case is purely Romanian] cel care inchiriaza este expus in mai mare masura riscului nerealizarii pretului de vinzare al produsului, ratele sint in acest caz mai mari decit in financial leasing."

Or another example:

"Tipic pentru leasing-ul efectuat direct de producator este incheierea de contracte operating leasing sub forms de leasing brut,"

which stands for the American "full-service leasing."

In the glossar column of the Viata Economica magazine American terms are explained and introduced as compulsory tools for Romanians' understanding of international marketing, trade, and specialized literature. For instance: "Factoring" is the title of the article where the term is explained in lexicographic manner without any attempts to have it translated. Then, within the very explanation the terms are used, such as: 'factor', 'factor-ul', 'factoring', 'factoring-ul'. In a sentence it reads:

". . . in mod curent 'factor-ul' asigura societatii si alte servicii; un contract de factoring poate sa simplifice evidentele. . ."

'Forfeting' and 'franchising' are two other examples of economic Ameroms.

Recently the procedeeings of an international design simposium were published in Bucharest in a book "Estetica Industriala" - which is an

attempt to translate 'design' into Romanian. The Viata Economica no. 12, 1972 reviewed the book but because 'design' in current use is much more comprehensive than the Romanian term, the above mentioned book review was: Compendiu de Design.

The phenomenon of American Romanian homonymy is mostly found in cybernetics where they are in great number functioning with high frequency, as for instance: 'feedback', 'flip-flop', 'blank', 'exit', 'link', 'off line', 'on line', 'simulator', 'test', etc. 'Bit', 'input', 'output' acquire the morphemes characteristic for the Romanian masculin nouns: 'ti', 'biti', 'inputi','outputi'.

(See appendix 4)

Another group of American terms are what I have called Nativized Ameroms because they have the same meaning but only similar pronunciation and orthography. A few examples from the language of computers; 'cascade-cascada', 'compatibility-compatibilitate', 'compilar-compilator', 'confuguration-configuratie', 'emulation-emulatie', 'feasability study-studiu de fezabilitate', 'implementation-implementare', 'list-listare', 'multiplexing-multiplexare', 'optimization-optimizare', 'peripheral equipment-echipament periferic', 'peak-pic', etc., etc.

(See appendix 5)

Professor P. E. Obeanu and Mr. S. H. Gould published a Romanian English Dictionary and Crammarfor the Mathematical Sciences, for the American Mathematical Society in 1967. It has three parts: grammar, a Romanian English mathematical vocabulary and 161 mathematical Ameroms, like: 'aperiodid', 'binominal', 'cofocal', 'factorial', 'modular', 'solenoid', 'evector' etc. (See appendix 6)

The existence and frequency of Absolute and Nativized Ameroms is material proof of the most exciting contemporary linguistic trend which has been longer known, and fought against, in France the 'franglais'. The utilization and enrichment of the Romanian of Science and Technology with new Ameroms in various registers is a stimulating, challening topic for an applied linguistic survey. The following quotations will underline this trend:

"Herbert Simon a folosit modele cauzale pentru testarea anumitor ipoteze cauzale concrete."

Or:

"Sociologia a fost una dintre primele stiinte care a realizat jonctiunea cu matematica."

Or: "Arborescenta este un graf partial."

All these quotations are from the journal Studii si cercetari de calcul economic si cibernetica economica, no. 1/1969. An excerpt from the article Programatica -sisteme de calcul complexe by professor N.I. Racoveanu reads:

"Existenta unei varietati de echipamente si configuratii de calcul apartinind unor generatii diferite precum si existenta a cel putin patru limbaje diferite de programare cu o mare varietate de implementari face necesara elaborarea unor tehnici de translare generala aplicabili transpunerii programelor de la un calculator la altul cit si a compilarii programelor scrise in diferite limbaje algoritmice."

The evolutionary trend of a distinct sentence structure and style, the logic expression of the written RST prose drew extensively from American manuals and instructions. It is well known fact that in all Romance languages the active voice prevails in literary tests. The development of languages in various scientific and technological registers

imposed an increased usage of Passive constructions more characteristic to the English sentence structure than to Romance languages. With the use of Passive construction the technical writer can drop reference to the experimenter and concentrate on the procedures and results of the experiment itself. The usage of Passive Voice thus more concisely expresses objective relations. The importance and aplicability of Passive Voice in RST has not been introduced theoretically, and this must be the explanation why the two voices still intermingle needlessly as in the following passages:

"Numai la opt repere, la care a fost aplicata pina acum metoda se pot obtine economii anuale de peste 200 de tone. Incurajati de aceste rezultate vom extinde pina la sforsitul anului extruderea la rece a inca cinci repre." (1972).

Or in mathematical language:

"Pe baza celor cinci propozitii de mai sus se introduce o metoda de definire a utilitatii. Daca se ia u(A 1) = 1 . . . se pot distinge urmatoarele cazuri. . Pentru a ilustra modul cum se opereaza cu utilitati vom prezenta un exemplu." (1969)

Besides the characteristic usage of Passive constructions there are a few other important syntactic and stylistic features of the RST that I have dealt with elsewhere, and I will only enumerate here. There are:

1. Scarcity of usage of personal pronouns;
2. Specific usage of modal verbs expressing capability, ability;
3. Absence of commands in advanced scientific prose;
4. Wider usage of commands in operating instructions, workshop situations;
5. Profuse word combinations, or compounding.

This brief socio-linguistic analysis of the contemporary trends of the Romanian of Science and Technology points out the influence of American

English which has in the last two decades replaced French as the international vehicle of ideas. American terms as absolute and nativized Ameroms, and characteristic sentence structure different from the language of the literature and the arts, are in Romanian to stay, not only in the language of science and technology but gradually in other registers too. Ameroms impact cannot be expressed in digits yet. However, their numerical existence in various registers can be calculated by linguists with the help of computers and the experience France's scientists from the Centre de Recherches et d'Etude Pour La Diffusion Du Francais (C.R.E.D.I.F.) have in this field is worth imitating. I am convinced the results will amplify my hypothesis. It will be exciting to know them, and their knowledge will mark a step ahead in Romance linguistic syncronic analysis.

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APPENDIX 1

Romanian Terms Borrowed

From German.

German	Romanian
Feile	pila
Kollergang	kolergang
Nietung	nituire
Nut	nut
Satz	zat
Schiff	sif
Scheibe	saiba
Schiene	sina
Schleifen	a slefui
Schleppkahn	slep
Schmiergel	smirghel
Schraube	surub
Stemmen	a stemui
Stich	stih
Stift	stift
Spritzen	a spritui
Streif	streif
Stutzen	stut

etc.

APPENDIX 2

Romanian Terms Borrowed From French

Amérissage	Rom.	amerisaj
Bielle		bielà
Blesage		blocaj
Branchement		bransament
Chantier		santier
Charge		sarjà
Châssis		sasiu
Chenille		senilà
Déblai		deblen
Degressaige		degresare
Débrayage		debreiere
Embrayage		ambreiaj
Empennage		ampenaj
Engrenage		angrenaj
Excavation		excavare
Fissuration hydraulique		fisurare hidraulicà
Freine		frinà
Manivelle		manivelà
Matrice		matrità
Mentage		mentaj
Pent de passarelle		puntea pasarelei
Régulateur à seupape		regulator eu supapà
Rodage		rodaj
San	Rom.	sas
Searifieage		scarificare
Schéma des connexions		schemà de conexiuni
Taraul de calibrage		tarod de elibrare
Tassement		tasare

etc.

APPENDIX 3

Romanian Terms Borrowed From English

Rather Than French

French	English	Romanian
Affectation	allocation	alocare
Axiomatique	axiomatic	axiomatic
Canal	tunnel	tunel
Concurrence	competition	competitie
Conduite	control	control
Componant(e)	component	componentă
Coût	cost	cost
Défault	defect	defect
Données	date	date
Dynamique	dynamic	dinamic
Economique	economic	economic
Efficace	efficient	eficient
Ensemble	set	set
Entretien courant	service	service
Expérience	experimentation	experiment
Facilité d'accés	accessibility	accesibilitate
Interconnexion	interface	interfață
Missile	rocket	rachetă
Moniteur	moniter	moniter
Navigation aérienne	aeronautics	aeronautică
Programme	program	program
Opérationel	operational	operational
Ordinateur	computer	calculator
Onde de tête	ballistie wave	undă balistică
Scalair	scalar	scalar
Temps partagé	time sharing	time sharing
Troupué	truneated	trunchiat
Vide préalable	preliminary vaacum	vid preliminar

APPENDIX 4

ABSOLUTE AMEROMS
Romanian Terms Borrowed From American And
Mostly Used In Cybernetics.

Access	acces
Additiv	aditiv
Affinor	afinor
Algorithm	algoritm
Bit	bit
Blank	blanc
Block	block
Boiler	boiler
Boot strap	boot strap
Byte	byte
Cascade	cascada
Collimator	colimator
Connector	conector
Disruptor	disruptor
Dump	dump
Duplex	duplex
Exit	exit
Feeder	fider
Flip flop	flip flop
Go-devil	go-devil
Halt	halt
Hard ware	hard ware
Jigger	jigger
Klystrom	clistrom
Off line	off line
On line	on line
Oscillator	oscilator
Processor	procesor
Rack	rac
Simulator	simulator
Soft ware	soft ware
Spin	spin
Spot	spot
Supervisor	supervizor
Stop	stop
String	string
Sysont	sysont
System	sistem (semantic change)
Terminal	terminal
Test	test
Thyristor	tiristor
Tractor	tractor
Transfer	transfer(semantic change

APPENDIX 5

NATIVIZED AMEROMS
Romanian Terms Borrowed From American
Mostly Used In Cybernetics

Address	adresa
Analogous	analog
Anharmonic	anarmonic
Aperture	apertura
Assembler	asamblor
Assertion	asertiune
Band	banda
Compactification	compactificare
Compatibility	compatibilitate
Compatible	compatibil
Compiler	compilator
Connect	conecta
Configuration	configuratie
Congruence	congruenta
Consider	considera
Console	consola
Convert	converti
Convolute	convoluta
Coplanarity	coplanaritate
Curtate	curtata
Data collecting	colectare date
Direct access	acces direct
Directive	directiva
Directory	director
Emulation	emulatie
Evolute	evoluta
Evolvent	evolventa
Equipment	echipament
Expression	expresie
Facilities	facilitati
Feasability	fezabilitate
Fluctuate	fluctua
Generation of computers	generatie de calculatoare
Graph	grafa
Holonomy	holonomie
Homotopy	homotopie
Implementation	implementare
Inscribe	inscrie
Intersection	intersectie
Interpreter	interpretor
Ionizable	ionizabil
Ionization	ionizare
Jack	jac; geak
Junction	jonctiune
List	listare
Mark	marca
Memory	memorie(semantic change)
Minor cycle	ciclu minor
Multiplexing	multiplexare
Multiprogramming	multiprogramare
Optimization	optimizare
Peak	pic
Priority	prioritate(semantic chang
Programming language	limbaj programare
Scope	scop
Simmulating	simulare
Teleprocessing	teleprelucrare
Teletransmission	teletransmisie
Test	testare
Trigger	trigher
Truncation	trunchiere
Winch	vinci

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APPENDIX 6

ABSOLUTE AMEROMS
Romanian Terms Borrowed From American: Mathematics

Abstract
Absurd
Alternant
Antecedent
Aperiodic
Apex
Arc
Argument
Aspect
Axial
Axiomatic

Binominal
Boolean

Cardinal
Cartesian
Central
Circuit
Circular
Cofactor
Coideal
Coincide
Compact
Complement
Complex
Conceptual
Concept
Complement
Cofocal
Conic
Conoid
Consistent
Constant
Contact
Contragredient
Contrast
Contravariant
Cubic

Decimal
Defect
Deficient
Deduce
Decide
Dependent
Determinant
Diametral
Digital
Dimensional
Direct
Disc
Distinct
Divergent
Dominant
Dual

Element
Euclidean
Evident
Exact
Experimental
Explicit
Exponent
Exterior

Factor
Factorial
Familiar
Final
Formal
Fundamental

General
Generator
Global
Gradient

Hamiltonian

Ideal
Imperfect
Idempotent
Implicit
Incident
Includ
Independent
Increment
Index
Indicator
Indirect
Individual
Inferior
Interval
Interior
Invariant

Laplacian
Latent
Lateral
Lenticular
Linear
Literai
Local
Longitudinal

Major
Majorant
Marginal
Minimal
Minimum
Minor
Modal
Model
Modular
Moment
Mutuai

Natural
Normal

Operator
Optimum

Parametric
Periodic
Perfect
Persistent
Personal
Plural
Plus
Principal
Program

Radial
Radian
Radical
Rapid
Real
Rectangular
Rigid

Scalar
Sectional
Sector
Secular
Similar
Singular
Solenoid
Solid
Special
Specific
Spin
Spectral
Standard
Strict
Superior

Tacit
Tangent
Tensor
Test
Total
Transfer
Transparent
Triginometric

Uniform
Unilateral
Unimodelar
Universal
Vacant
Valid
Variant
Vector
Vertical
Virtual

APPENDIX 7

ABSOLUTE AND NATIVIZED AMEROMS
Romanian Terms Borrowed From American: Social Sciences

Competi:ivity	competitivitate
Desing	design
Developmer.t	dezvoltare (semantic change)
Educational	educational
Facilities	facilitati
Factor	factor
Factoring	factoring
Financial leasing	financial leasing
Forfeting	forfeting
Franchising	franchising
Input	input pl. inputi
Know how	know how
Leasing	leasing
Marketing	marketing
Minimization	minimizare
Motivation	motivatie
Operating leasing	operating leasing
Optimization	optimizare
Output	output, pl. outputi
Philosophy	filozofie (semantic change)
Political science	politologie
Service	service